

## HARDING MESSAGE SATISFIES ALLIES

London 'Times' Says Emphasis on Reparations Is Greeted by All.

## MUCH DEPENDS ON YAP

Asserts Main Argument of Hughes Mandate Note Is Indisputable.

## 'SPECTATOR' FOR CHANGE

'Statesman' Blames Americans, Thanking God They Were Not as Others.

LONDON, April 15.—After refraining from commenting on the London 'Times' new observation that President Harding's rejection of the covenant of the League of Nations is absolute and complete, it says the position of the message regarding an association to promote peace is "very vague, and no doubt intentionally vague." It adds that "the world must wait until the dots before a positive interpretation can be placed upon it."

The 'Times' expressed the opinion that the declaration emphasizing the justice of and necessity for reparations in connection with war responsibility will be greeted with satisfaction by all the Allies. The newspaper regards as highly important President Harding's statement of the reason why he holds that no separate treaties with the Central Powers would solve the problem confronting the United States in common with the rest of the world.

It assuredly shows real appreciation of the American position and the manner in which the position touches the interests of America," says the 'Times.' "He refused, as most Englishmen will, to be content with the American position after playing a part in the war can retro into a state of self-centered isolation. The basis of his policy is sure ground and moral duty."

## Yap Reply to Settle U. S. Acts.

The 'Times' ventures as a possible interpretation of the message that the United States intends to adhere to certain vital clauses of the treaty of Versailles, provided "rights and interests" are confirmed, and also that the Allied reply to the note on mandates, particularly concerning Yap, will determine whether the United States will cooperate in the application of the treaty or act independently.

Referring to Secretary Hughes' note concerning mandates the 'Times' says the "importance of the note appears as an ex parte statement, as the notes of the Allies have been kept back."

In conclusion the editorial declares that in the main the argument of the note appears indisputable.

The weekly newspaper comment at length on President Harding's message, treating it according to the policy and attitude toward the League of Nations. The 'Spectator' says that American methods in international relations always are a good deal more lawyer-like than those of European diplomacy, and that if this is considered it will be seen the message pertains "much less in substance than in form of a working proposal and may well prove, as we in fact believe it will, the basis of great things."

## U. S. Would Strengthen League.

It adds: "We believe the league, even if the name is changed to 'Association of Nations,' will be strengthened and vivified by the entry of the United States, however strict her chief reservations."

The 'Spectator' suggests that President Harding get the best brains in the United States to make proposals for modifying the League of Nations and securing the entrance of the United States. It concludes: "The world will be glad to see that mankind must be crucified on a rigid and technical interpretation of the American Constitution."

The New Statesman says: "It is by no means impossible that if the Americans had come in and asserted themselves in the league instead of standing apart and thanking God that they were not as other nations the league might be in a better position than it is to-day."

The Nation says that behind all the issues between England and the United States "Ireland" and "Ireland" will inflame all other issues and kill cooperation between the two English speaking nations for the achievement of a better world order. The uncompromising language of the Yap note as of the former note on Mesopotamia, reflects this feeling.

Claiming that there is no sympathy for Great Britain in the United States, the 'Nation' says: "Even before the Irish atrocities our moral stock was going down and it now is sunk to a dangerously low level. Those who know the American people well will realize how rapidly passions sweep over them and imperil public relations."

## BAR IRISH COURTS TO CASES AGAINST BRITISH

Forbidden to Hear Complaints on Crown Forces.

DUBLIN, April 15.—Capt. King and Cadet Hinchcliffe of the Auxiliaries were acquitted to-day by a court-martial on a charge of having murdered James Murphy. Murphy died as a result of injuries received after he had been examined and discharged from Dublin Castle on February 9 with another man named Kennedy.

It was officially announced to-day that Major MacKinnon of the command of a company of Auxiliaries, was murdered on the Tralee golf course this afternoon. Judge Bodkin, presiding in Quarter Sessions in Ennis, County Clare, read a letter from the County Police Inspector saying he had been directed by the chief commanders of the Crown forces to prohibit courts hearing cases in which allegations had been made against Crown forces, either military or police.

## MURDER AND AMBUSH CONTINUE IN IRELAND

Week's Casualties to Crown Forces Number 26.

DUBLIN, April 15.—No change in the general situation in Ireland has been revealed during the last week, says the official weekly review issued to-day.

Murders of policemen decreased to four last week, as compared with eight the previous week, but the military casualties increased from four to six. The total casualties to the Crown forces numbered twenty-six.

During the week there were twenty-five ambushes, six attacks on police barracks, three assassinations and seven murders of civilians, attributed to the Irish Volunteers. There were also six attempted murders, thirty-five raids on the mails and sixty-six arrests for outrages and political offences. Sixty persons were interned and 115 released, leaving 2,598 interned.

## FRANCE WILL NOT TOLERATE GERMAN DELAY, SAYS BRIAND

No Neutral Can Aid Germany and Remain a Neutral, Declares 'Temps' Adding That America Cannot Be Brought Into Affairs of Europe by Berlin.

By the Associated Press.

PARIS, April 15.—Premier Briand reiterated before the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Senate to-day his emphatic expression that France would not countenance any dilatory tactics on the part of Germany on May 1 concerning reparations.

"France has decided to obtain a real solution with tangible guarantees," the Premier declared.

The Cabinet, with President Millerand in the chair and Marshal Foch and Gen. Weigand present, to-day discussed the question of the eventual extension of military penalties to be applied to Germany in case she failed to give by May 1 satisfactory assurances of the payment of reparations. After the meeting it was announced that the French Government would take no action until after consultation with France's allies.

If the supreme council reassembles shortly, says the 'Temps,' it can only work in the interests of all by confining itself to reality.

"It is clear," the paper declares, "that the deliberations among the Allies will exclude all separate conversations which Dr. Simons (the German Foreign Secretary) appears desirous of entering with."

## APPEAL TO HARDING BY POPE EXPECTED

Efforts to Secure Mediation on Reparations Said to Have Been Made.

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Efforts are being made to secure mediation in the question of reparations through an appeal by the Vatican to President Harding. This information came to THE NEW YORK HERALD through a source from an unofficial but trustworthy source. One of the highest Government officials declined to comment on the matter, stating that if intervention by President Harding is sought, premature discussion could only wreck the chances of success. He, however, said that Germany would not be deterred from making a new offer by motives of prestige and indicated that such an offer would be one that would fairly well amplify the suggestions outlined in the memorandum of Dr. Walter Simons, German Foreign Minister, to Ellis L. Duesel, American Commissioner to Berlin.

The French Embassy claimed the story of coming Papal intervention as fiction and some of the leading Germans declared that they did not believe a mediation policy would be likely to develop into anything tangible. There is no question that Dr. Simons while in Lugano conferred with the German Minister to the Vatican on the question of the Papal intervention. President Harding regarding American intervention or arbitration, and it is just as positively affirmed that the Pope has given his consent.

Whether the Pope's action has already been taken, or is still to come, is not known here. Germany, a clerical (Catholic) organ, yesterday reported that mediation had been proposed by the Cabinet, its information obviously obtained from members of the Catholic party and relating to the promised step by the Pope.

The Berlin Cabinet has now formally placed itself beside Dr. Simons and has voted to make a new offer to the Allies. But in so doing it obliged itself to maintain absolute secrecy as to the details of the new offer.

BERN, April 15.—The Swiss Government to-day issued a semi-official note declaring that it never, in any manner, had undertaken to act as an intermediary between the Allies and Germany, and that it had no intention of doing so.

BRUSSELS, April 15.—According to the 'L'Echo,' the Belgian Government has decided to make a new offer to the Allies. But in so doing it obliged itself to maintain absolute secrecy as to the details of the new offer.

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## U.S. SOON TO ENTER COUNCIL OF ALLIES

Harding Regime Going In to World Affairs and Help Settle Up War Job.

## PART WILL BE ACTIVE

'America First' Is Guiding Star in Deciding Every Foreign Relation.

## RECLAIM VICTORY FRUITS

Viviani Goes Understanding Policy That Rights Wilson Ignored Are Asserted.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD, New York Herald Bureau, Washington, D. C., April 15.

With the calling of Mr. Harding to the Presidency and the summoning of Mr. Hughes to the conduct of foreign relations, international sentimentalism went to the scrap pile where national mistakes are discarded. The trite but splendidly significant battle cry of the campaign, "America first," was not abandoned as a mere vote catcher. It has become the very cornerstone of the foreign policies that the President and the Secretary of State are building.

The clearest possible intimation of this fact was given to the news writers to-day by men whose words are not taken lightly. Glimpses were afforded into regions of American purpose that hitherto had been obscure. A definite notion of the big, sweeping ambition of the new Administration was conveyed. "America first" is one way to describe this purpose.

Another way would be to state that in all the problems of foreign relationship that may arise the President and Mr. Hughes will examine every one from the primary viewpoint of the safeguarding and improving of American interests the world over.

Keeping this in mind, there need be, as was frankly pointed out to-day, no special mystery about the general foreign purposes of the President and his right hand man. Their programme is more simple than many would make out, although it does embrace a multitude of perplexing, difficult and even

dangerous tasks. It is based on the Root conviction that the main duty of the Administration is to rescue as much as possible of the American rights and opportunities that were thrown away by the Wilson Administration and neglect no method or means of enhancing American prestige, of protecting such trade opportunities as already exist and of opening up new roads of trade.

The discomfited propagandists for the League of Nations are already referring to the President and Mr. Hughes as "apostles of gross materialism," a revival in new form of the "dollar diplomacy" gibed flung at Mr. Knox when he was Secretary of State. Snarls and sarcasms are in circulation about "the shameful abandonment of ideals" and so on, but such criticisms, it can be authoritatively stated, will not move the President and the Secretary of State from proceeding with policies which "touch the comfort and happiness of every man, woman and child in the United States," as a very noted man took occasion to phrase it to-day.

Their conviction is that ideals cannot get very far without a large degree of material prosperity. They are proceeding in the theory that a large degree of material prosperity is unattainable unless the Allies and the rest of the world recognize and abide by all American rights. And with this goes their belief that no real world comity, no smoothly functioning world association is possible until such recognition is obtained and all hands agree to such fair dealing as will let the human procession move onward again, to use the President's own phrase.

Their basic policy, "America first," the reassertion and the firm maintenance of American privileges, is already producing as complete a reversal of the attitude of the Wilson Administration as one can imagine. The Secretary of State has been stopped owing to the fact that the American move onward again, to use the President's own phrase.

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